



NEW SET OF WHEELS

With 62,297 new vehicles to hit the road, city's car, 2-wheeler numbers rose over 23% this Oct as compared to last

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RECEDING SHORES

Only 50% of Karnataka's coastline is stable; 24% is under varying degrees of erosion, 26% is piling up, reveals report

PAGE 7

Look into domestic workers' pay in city reveals resident welfare associations often set wages arbitrarily without consultation, proper categorisation leading to most working at measly rates

ALL WORK, WON'T PAY

Labour Department urged to conduct sensitisation programmes with RWAs

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A post went viral on social media site X recently that brought into focus the issue of Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) setting arbitrary wages to be paid to domestic workers.

"In a city of high rises, our humanity keeps sinking lower. A society collectively fixes house help rates, a mere Rs 1,000 a month to clean utensils twice a day!

Accept or be debarred! We preach fairness, but as soon as people get power, we use it to exploit anyone we can," said a tweet by one Gaurav Gupta, along with the wage card set by an unknown RWA. Bangalore Mirror spoke to activists to find out if the behaviour exists among RWAs in the city.

Geeta Menon from the Domestic Workers' Rights Union (DRWU) confirmed that the phenomenon is prevalent in Bengaluru and the wages are miserably low. She noted that the wage cards are arbitrarily set by RWAs, without consultation with workers and the tasks are not categorised satisfactorily.

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“These notifications often have a threatening tone which cautions employers that their worker will be barred from entering the complex premises if and when found to be taking more than the prescribed charges

— Geeta Menon, Domestic Workers' Rights Union

Ground reality: We object

BBMP receives 300+ objections from citizens, experts, NGOs against 'superfluous' sky deck proposal



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Hundreds of citizens, in written objections to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), have expressed that the proposed sky deck in Bengaluru is superfluous and dispensable.

Officials from BBMP told Bangalore Mirror that they have received more than 300 online and offline objections from citizens, civic experts, and non-government organisations against the project. "We have received 294 online and some offline responses for the public notice posted nearly two weeks ago. Almost all are objections against the project, instead of suggestions on alternate locations. Citizens have highlighted that they would prefer the government to address critical issues like flooding, pothole-ridden roads, and water shortages," said a senior BBMP official.

What is interesting is that these objections were sent in response to the notice seeking suggestions on alternate locations for the proposed sky deck.

Notably, BBMP issued a public notice on October 30, proposing Hemmigeppura (Near NICE Clover Leaf) as the preliminary

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WAITING FOR CIVIC BODY POLLS

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Waste to wealth

Do you think everything we throw away has no value? Bring something you consider waste, and let's make art from it. Have a productive Sunday by participating in 'Kasadinda Rasa,' a two-hour immersive art workshop for children between 8 and 15 years. Participants are also required to bring scrap paper, pencils, erasers, crayons, and sketch pens. **Where:** National Gallery of Modern Art, Palace Road; **When:** November 17, 11:30 am



02 Modern twist

Watch Kalavilasi Bengaluru Team's "Kranthi Banthu #Kranthi," a play that has been adapted to the present times from P Lankesh's original "Kranthi Banthu Kranthi," first published in 1971. It explores pressing issues such as the tyranny of capitalists, systemic interference, the opportunistic behaviour of influencers for personal gain, the outrage of disempowered youth, the flood of opinions on social media, and how the media capitalises on these dynamics. Woven with humour and satire, the play offers ample entertainment while provoking thought. **Where:** Dr C Ashwath Kala Bhavana, NR Colony **When:** November 17, 7 pm

03 Immersive arena

Science Gallery Bengaluru & Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan is hosting an artist-in-residence programme showcasing the work of artist and mathematician Robert B Lisek. As part of this residency, Lisek will



present 'SUPERPOSITION,' an innovative live performance. Free and open to the public, the live act invites audiences into a responsive space where laser light, video projections, and dance are shaped by quantum principles, offering a multisensory experience that nudges our perceptions of reality. **Where:** Science Gallery Bengaluru; **When:** November 17, 6:30 pm



Majestic heights

Visitors explore the 'Himalayan Studies' series created by Nicholas Roerich during the 1920s that are kept on exhibit at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Saturday. Donated to Svetoslav Roerich, these 36 artworks depict snow-capped peaks and rivers of Himalayas

Polished rice: Uncovering grain of truth behind glossy finishing

Sale of polished rice rampant in state; experts highlight concerns over such consumption and its health risks, urge people to make informed choices

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The practice of polishing rice and selling it at higher prices is becoming increasingly rampant across Karnataka. Polished rice, often marketed under various brand names, is produced by processing rice meant for farmers and public distribution to the underprivileged. However, studies have suggested that such rice poses significant health risks. Medical experts have issued warnings about the adverse health effects of consuming highly polished rice.

Impact on pregnant women & children

Experts have highlighted that polished rice can adversely affect pregnant women and nursing mothers. Research indicates that children born to mothers consuming polished rice are at higher risk of developing heart-related ailments.

A study conducted by Bengaluru's Jayadeva Hospital revealed that polished rice consumption among pregnant women and nursing mothers has led to Vitamin B1 deficiencies and an increase in heart-related illnesses among their children. Dr Aravind A, a pediatrician added, "Polished rice consumption has detrimental effects on children, especially due to nutrient deficiencies. Therefore, it is crucial



'Polished rice consumption has detrimental effects on health. So one must opt for unpolished rice such as red rice/parboiled rice'

to opt for unpolished rice such as red rice or parboiled rice for better health."

Reasoning behind using polished rice

Polished rice is created by removing the outer layer of rice grains through specialised machinery. While natural rice has a brownish colour due to its outer bran layer, polishing gives it an appealing white appearance. Thus polished rice is softer, cooks faster, and is more visually attractive, which leads to greater consumer preference despite its health implications.

Nutrient loss during polishing

Sources said that polishing strips rice of its essential nutrients, including Vitamin B1 (thiamine), riboflavin, folate, niacin, Vitamin E, magnesium, and potassium. This loss of nutrients makes polished rice nutritionally inferior compared to unpolished varieties.

"Unpolished rice is a healthier choice as it retains essential vitamins and minerals. Polished rice contains lower fibre and protein but higher glucose levels, making it unsuitable for dia-



betics," said an official from the Health Department.

Healthier alternatives

Unpolished rice, including varieties like red rice and parboiled rice, is rich in fibre, vitamins, and proteins, making it a healthier option. Experts urge consumers to make informed choices to prioritise their well-being. Authorities are also being urged to crack down on the malpractice of repackaging polished rice under premium labels to protect public health.

127 cases of illegal parking, 722 no-entry violations

Traffic police collect ₹12.02 lakh in 5-hour special drive

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A special enforcement drive by the traffic police on Saturday resulted in the booking of 1,507 cases and the collection of ₹12.02 lakh in fines within just five hours. The operation, conducted from 11 am to 4 pm, targeted key traffic violations.

During the drive, 127 cases of illegal parking were recorded, resulting in fines of ₹64,500. A significant number of no-entry violations were also noted, with 722 cases booked and fines amounting to ₹3,66,500. Additionally, 68 cases of footpath riding were penalised, collecting ₹34,000, while 590 instances of driving against one-way traffic led to fines totaling ₹2,97,000.

Delivery rush: Drive nets ₹22.13 lakh in fines

As Bengaluru's e-commerce boom shows no signs of slowing, the city's streets have become a battleground between speed and safety. To rein in traffic violations by delivery riders, the traffic police conducted a special drive on Friday, booking a staggering



Fatal road accident on NICE Road: Driver dies in collision

An accident on NICE Road near Kommaghatta, Kengeri, around 7.50 pm on Friday claimed the life of a 27-year-old driver. The goods vehicle driver T Hariharan from Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu, is said to have rear-ended a tipper truck near chainage number 26.3 on NICE Road, heading towards Mysore Road.

Investigations suggest the tipper driver was driving negligently, stopping abruptly on the

road, which led to the collision. The goods vehicle, unable to brake in time, crashed into the stationary tipper truck. Hariharan succumbed to his injuries on the spot. The tipper driver fled the scene.

The NICE control room alerted personnel on duty, who arrived at the scene. Hariharan's identification was confirmed through an ID card found in his pocket. The Kengeri Traffic Police have registered a case.

4,293 cases and collecting ₹22.13 lakh in fines within a single day.

From zipping through traffic signals to squeezing through no-entry lanes, delivery riders were stopped from bending the rules in their race against time.

Riding without helmets topped the violations chart, with 1,344 cases booked, earning ₹6,48,100 in fines. Even pillion riders weren't spared, with 976 cases for not wearing helmets adding ₹4,69,600 to the fine tally.

Other infractions revealed a pattern of dangerous shortcuts: 472 no-entry violations racked up ₹2,34,700, while 258 signal jumps cost riders ₹1,23,900. Triple riding, parking on footpaths, and defective number plates further highlighted the urgency for better adherence to rules.

Over 600 cases in East Traffic Division

The East Traffic Division conducted a special operation on Friday, targeting violations such as driving against one-way rules, no-entry violations, wrong and no parking, footpath parking, riding without helmets, and triple riding. The drive resulted in 603 cases being registered against motorists and drivers who flouted traffic regulations.

The operation not only enforced traffic rules but also focused on raising awareness about the importance of road safety. A total fine amount of ₹3,01,500 was collected during the drive, underscoring the authorities' commitment to curbing dangerous road behaviors.

Traffic police officials have urged that special drives will continue.

Man hits teen son with bat, killing him

A man is said to have hit his teenager son in Kumaraswamy Layout late Friday night following an argument over a mobile phone that later caused the 14-year-old's death. Ravikumar, a 45-year-old carpenter, is said to have returned home intoxicated when he found Tejas, playing a game on his mobile phone. Ravikumar confronted Tejas about his recent behavior—skipping school, neglecting his studies, and associating with a negative peer group. Tejas had reportedly been demanding a new phone, further fueling the argument.

In a fit of rage, Ravikumar is said to have struck his son on the head with a cricket bat and later hit him against a wall. Tejas fell to the ground, crying in pain and telling his father that he was hurt. However, Ravikumar dismissed his son's pleas as a dramatic act and left him lying on the floor.

Hours passed before Ravikumar returned to check on Tejas. To his horror, he found his son unconscious, and by the time they rushed him to the hospital, Tejas had already succumbed to his injuries.

The Kumaraswamy Layout Police arrested Ravikumar on charges of murder. **BMB**



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Private vehicles increased by 23% this festive season

50,000 plus private two-wheelers and 15,000 plus new cars were registered in October; role of uneconomical and inefficient public transport system cannot be ruled out completely

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The sale of private cars and two-wheelers in Bengaluru increased by more than 23% during this year's festive season compared with last year. Last month (October), Bengaluru registered 66,297 new private vehicles compared with 53,512 in October 2023. Data from the Transport Department shows that while 50,512 private two-wheelers were registered in October, 15,785 new cars were registered in the city.

While the sale of two-wheelers grew by nearly 25%, the sale of cars increased by a little over 17%. October 2024 also registered the highest number of private vehicles in the last two years. Experts say while the surge in registration of new vehicles in October was due to the festive season, the role of the uneconomical and inefficient public transport system cannot be ruled out completely.

"The section of the public that uses bus transport in Bengaluru is paying higher fares compared



Vehicles stuck in a traffic jam on Airport Road (file photo)

to other cities such as Mumbai and Chennai. Moreover, BMTC buses are not reliable. When coupled with the lack of a seamless public transport system, the only option left for citizens is to have a private mode of transport. The agencies responsible for public transport systems in the city such as BMRCL, BMTC, and K-RIDE have missed the bigger picture that these networks will be used unitedly by the majority of travelers, leaving agonising gaps," said a city-based public transport proponent. With October's data, the total number of private two-wheelers and cars in the city has now reached more than 1.05

Any improvement or drop in private vehicles is possible only when commuting through public transport is made bearable — Expert

crores, with the total number of vehicles on the city roads a little over 1.20 crores. Private cars and two-wheelers now form 87.6% of the total vehicles on the city's roads. This year so far (between January and October), more than 1.25 lakh new private cars have

been registered in Bengaluru.

Mobility experts opine that the number of private cars and two-wheelers is only expected to increase year after year given the public transport crisis that the city faces.

"Bengaluru is in the nascent stage of public transport. Metro covers only a small fraction of the city, and expansion has been painfully slow. Other mass transit systems, such as the suburban rail project, have been moving at a snail's pace. Any improvement or drop in private vehicles is possible only when commuting through public transport is made bearable," said the expert.

Food initiative launched to curb aggressive behaviour in community dogs

Effective management of aggressive behaviour among animals relies on providing them with adequate food, according to Sri Suralkar Vikas Kishor, special commissioner of the Animal Husbandry Department. He highlighted that feeding community dogs at least one meal a day significantly reduces their need to scavenge and fight for food. On October 17, 2024, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's Animal Husbandry Department initiated a food distribution programme across eight zones in collaboration with sanitation workers and restaurant owners. Notable participants include Kabab Mahal, Krishnam, Empire, and KFC in Bommanahalli Zone; Udupi Hotel in Yelahanka Zone; Gangadhar Catering in RR Nagar Zone; Indira Canteen in Gayathrinagar under West Zone; Hyderabad Biryani House and Udupi Hotel in Mahadevapura Zone;

and Elite Hotel in Dasarahalli Zone. The department expressed gratitude for their compassion and efforts in supporting this noble cause.

Feeding over 100 dogs daily

Under the department's supervision, over 100 dogs have been fed daily as part of this initiative for the past month. "To expand this programme, the BBMP has outlined a plan to ensure systematic feeding of community dogs across the city. Each of the 28 constituencies will identify a minimum of five feeding locations, aiming to streamline the process and resolve challenges faced during implementation. With the support of animal welfare advocates, the Animal Husbandry Department aims to provide food to 1,000 dogs and is working on plans to reach even more animals in the future. The BBMP urg-



es Bengaluru residents to contribute by offering dogs a bowl of food daily near their homes. Additionally, citizens are encouraged to support spay-neuter programmes and vaccination drives to control the community dog population and improve urban harmony," he added.

— BMB

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Uncleared garbage

RT Nagar



Garbage has been uncleared for several days on on 2nd cross Dinnur main road RT Nagar.

Cow disruption



Stray cows have taken over Coles Road near the Mosque Road junction, causing traffic disruptions and potential hazards for pedestrians.

Risky roads

Kithiganur



The condition of roads in Kithiganur has been poor for many years, making travel difficult and unsafe for residents and commuters alike.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/32/2024 Dated: 12.11.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Gadag - Hotgi Doubling Project: Manufacturing, Supplying and Installation of Rubberized Road Surface at Level Crossing Gate Nos. 46, 51A, 52, 54, 58 & 59 between Bagalkot - Wandal Section. (Tender Ref. No.: HIGA-100)	Rs. 1,35,24,953/-

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 04.12.2024
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Engineer / Construction / Works / Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/574/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/31/2024 Dated: 12.11.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Hubballi Division: Hubballi - Ballari Section: (1) Construction of subway at km. 117/000-100 in lieu of LC No. 66 at Km. 117/600-700 between Koppal and Ginigera stations (Balance Works). (2) Construction of Subway in lieu of LC No. 62 at Km 116/100-200 between Koppal and Ginigera stations (Balance Works). (Tender Ref. No.: KBL-LC-66-62-BAL)	Rs. 8,69,73,023/-

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 03.12.2024
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Engineer / Construction / Works / Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/573/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

Local governance is in state of uncertainty

Delay in local body elections hinders developmental works in 4 municipal corporations

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During the recent deluge, many citizens felt that it was tough to reach out to officials; further, the absence of elected corporators was strongly felt. In fact, if you think the elections for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) have not been held for a while, then you are wrong, as three other municipal corporations are also waiting for elected representatives.

The constitutional vision of prioritising local governance seems to be under strain in Karnataka. Over the past five years, zilla panchayat elections have not been conducted, and elections to major municipal corporations remain in limbo. This delay has disrupted localised development models, causing significant concerns among citizens and former representatives.

Elections in limbo

The State Election Commission, Karnataka, had announced in August that elections would be held for the municipal corporations of Bengaluru, Shivamogga, Mysuru, and Tumakuru. As per the Supreme Court's directive, the commission stated that elections could proceed based on previous ward reservations and demarcations if the government fails to notify fresh reservations within the stipulated time. Despite these assurances, election preparations have stagnated, leaving local governance in a state of uncertainty. Sources said that although the commission had instructed respective municipal and district offices to prepare voter lists, the process remains incomplete.



Lack of elected members in civic bodies makes grievance redressal difficult

Absence of elected representatives has led to stagnation in key areas like property registrations, housing permits, & routine public grievances

—Former municipal members

The final draft of the voter list, which was due by September 17, has not been released yet, further delaying the election timeline. Updates to the voter rolls, which involve continuous additions, have necessitated a fresh start, complicating the process.

Redistricting proposals adding to delays

An official said that Shivamogga Municipal Corporation recently submitted a proposal for ward redistricting, adding another layer of delay to the election process. Shivamogga's municipal term expired in November 2023, and Mysuru's term ended even earlier. With no elected representatives, development work has come to a standstill. Former municipal mem-

bers argue that the absence of elected representatives has led to stagnation in key areas like property registrations, housing permits, and day-to-day public grievances. A politician said, "Elected representatives are accountable to the people and ensure work in the wards. Without them, some officials remain inaccessible, worsening public hardships."

BBMP's 4-year void

The BBMP, which oversees Bengaluru's administration, has not held elections for four years. The term of the elected councillors ended in September 2020, and since then, officials have been managing its affairs. This marks the first time in BBMP's history that four years have passed without elected representatives. Ward reorganisation and

Key dates of expired terms

● **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike:** Term ended on September 10, 2020

● **Mysuru Mahanagara Palike:** Term expired in May 2023

● **Shivamogga Mahanagara Palike:** Term expired on November 28, 2023

● **Tumakuru Mahanagara Palike:** Term expires on January 29, 2024

division have been cited as reasons for delaying elections.

Critics alleged that political reluctance to cede control to corporators has also contributed to the prolonged delay. Sources said that without elected representatives, local governance has suffered, affecting infrastructure projects and citizen services. Calls for timely elections continue to grow as delays impact Karnataka's local administration and public accountability.

Bomb scare turns out to be false alarm

In a tense turn of events on Saturday, an auto driver sparked a bomb scare after finding two unattended bags in his vehicle, reportedly left by an unknown passenger. Concerned that the bags might contain explosives, the driver rushed to the Jayanagar police station, informing authorities of his suspicion.

The police quickly mobilised, and the bomb disposal squad was called to inspect the vehicle. For a brief period, confusion and anxiety gripped the area as authorities dealt with the scare. However, after an in-depth inspection, it was confirmed that the bags contained harmless items like a drilling machine, a mixer, and other construction equipment. The investigation is ongoing.

—BMB

Dealer with ganja worth ₹4 lakh caught

The Halasurugate Police Station, on Thursday under the Bengaluru City Police Commissionerate's Central Division, successfully arrested an individual involved in the illegal sale of narcotic ganja. The accused, identified as 26-year-old Bin Vijay Kumar G, was caught red-handed while transporting a marijuana concealed in a trolley bag on his two-wheeler near a house on Bannappa Road, near Bannappa Park. Authorities seized a total of 12 kg 200 grams of ganja from his possession, valued at an estimated Rs 4 lakh in the illicit market.

Along with the narcotic ganja, the police also seized items like a trolley bag containing the drugs, a mobile phone, Rs 1,600 in cash (likely proceeds from the drug sale), and a two-wheeler. The police have formally registered a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, specifically under Section 20(B), and investigations are under process.

—BMB

Cubbon Park may soon be closed for traffic on select Saturdays

In a meeting that was held recently, the Horticulture Department along with the Cubbon Park Committee decided to halt all vehicular movement inside the Cubbon Park on the second and fourth Saturdays every month. The Horticulture Department Deputy Director added that this new rule is still in the decision stage and will be finalised in four to five days.

Vehicular movement was allowed inside the park on a three-month trial basis six months ago to alleviate congestion and provide a direct route. However, the committee members noted that allowing vehicles on these days was not a sustainable solution. Moreover, concerns over the environmental impact, particularly on the park's flora and fauna, were raised by horticulture experts. A police official



Parked vehicles & moving traffic inside Cubbon Park (file photo)

shared, "Horticulture members are expressing concerns that vehicular movement is harming nature and disturbing the park's bird population. Though they had initially allowed it, they are now rethinking this decision." The committee's primary focus is to protect the park's biodiversity, which has suffered due to increased vehicle presence during

weekends.

The situation has also highlighted parking issues. On holidays, large numbers of visitors used to park vehicles outside Cubbon Park. However, this decision has, to some extent, alleviated the congestion around the park and surrounding roads.

Meanwhile, the police noted that this decision is not final and remains under review. "During holidays, we see an uptick in vehicles, but the limited traffic on Saturdays has certainly eased congestion," the officer added.

There will be some exceptions to this new rule. Emergency services such as ambulances, fire engines, and certain VIP-related emergencies will still be permitted access through the park. However, in such cases, police will need to obtain prior permission from the Horticulture Department.

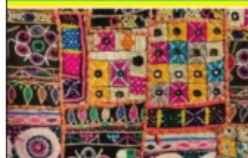
—Sanjana CS

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HOUSE AND FESTIWORLD

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15th NOVEMBER to 29th DECEMBER 2024





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VENUE

PARKING FREE

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

TEMPLE GOAT

This magnificent specimen of its kind seen in the grazing field near Bellandur Vishnu temple

The picture was clicked by reader
A Avani



If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

Do not declare Hesaraghatta as reserved protected area: Locals

Local leaders stressed that the decision was made without consulting local farmers and panchayat leaders, and if not reversed will invite aggressive protest

The declaration of 'Greater Hesaraghatta Grassland Conservation Reserve' has faced strong opposition from local leaders and organisations accusing the government of attempting to exploit farmers. Presidents, vice-presidents, and members from four gram panchayats in the Hesaraghatta area, along with farmers' associations and Kannada cultural organisations, have joined hands to condemn the move. A meeting was organised recently near the Hesaraghatta Tourist Complex, where leaders of various organisations held protests against the decision. Among the attendees were members

of the Hesaraghatta Farmers' Service Cooperative, including Vishwanath from the Arakere and Hurulichikkana-halli gram panchayats, and leaders from multiple other organisations.

The protestors criticised the government's lack of a proper survey of the 5,010-acre Hesaraghatta grassland

“This is a major mistake by the government, and we will not accept it

—Protestors

area before its declaration under Section 3A of the 1972 Act. They stressed that the decision was made without consulting local farmers and panchayat leaders. The government had previously instructed officials to visit the villages personally to collect opinions, with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah urging such visits to gather feedback directly from villagers. Leaders

warned that if the government does not reconsider its decision, they would escalate the protest. BJP senior leader SN Rajanna warned that “If the government does not reverse its decision, an aggressive struggle will follow.”

The opposition also expressed disappointment over the government's ac-

tions, claiming that the farmers had not been consulted before declaring the area a protected zone. “This is a major mistake by the government, and we will not accept it,” stated the protestors. Meanwhile, some NGOs and external individuals were accused of unfairly making decisions that would harm farmers who are unfamiliar with using mobile apps to update information. Several BJP leaders criticised the government's actions, arguing that it was a direct attack on farmers. The protestors stressed that the current government's decision to protect the Hesaraghatta area was detrimental to the interests of local farmers, and further stated that they would not back down from their demands. Various former panchayat leaders and activists were also part of the protest, showing strong solidarity against the proposed changes. — BMB



Locals stressed that the decision was not consulted, and if not reversed will invite aggressive protest

DID YOU KNOW?



Sound moves by vibrations in a medium, like air or water, hence there is no sound in space. There is no sound in space because there is no air for sound waves to pass through. This is due to the fact that space is a vacuum—that is, it is nearly devoid of substance. Vibrations that move through a medium, such as water or air, produce sound waves. Since space has nearly no matter for sound waves to travel through, it is a near-perfect vacuum. It is impossible for sound waves to exist in space without a medium to transmit the vibrations. Therefore, you wouldn't be able to hear a huge explosion in space since there wouldn't be anything to transmit the sound waves to your ears. Sonification is the method by which scientists frequently translate data from space observations into sound. By using this method, scientists can examine data differently and uncover patterns that could otherwise go unnoticed. By enabling individuals to “listen” to the universe, sonification also increases public accessibility to space research.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

What initiatives or community projects have positively impacted your neighbourhood in Bengaluru?



Avantika U, BM Reader

The most basic are the parks in my neighbourhood which enhances community engagement and bring the residents closer. However, undertaking cleanliness projects would make living better in the city.



Dankan N, BM Reader

I visited a lake for my assignment, which was in a bad condition but is now well maintained. These kinds of projects will bring hope to Bangaloreans and we need more of them.



Surbhi, BM Reader

There has been a drive for the conservation of the Arekere lake for a long time, and I think it has helped the lake and the surroundings a lot, in addition to providing a cleaner environment for residents to live in.



Tanishka, BM Reader

Clean-up drives that I have participated in with my classmates are something that I think is necessary. Since Bengaluru is such a fast-paced city, these drives help not only in cleaning the environment but also bring people closer.



Rohit Poptani, BM Reader

Various community projects, like neighbourhood clean-up drives and tree-planting initiatives, have positively impacted my neighbourhood over the years and continue to.



Ananya, BM Reader

I think social service is something we should implement in the city and I have been a part of it in many ways, so I think it has brought some positive effect in my surroundings.

SPEAK TO US

What are some native Bengaluru eateries that you treasure?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

Vanishing shores

Only 50% of Karnataka's coastline is stable; 24% is under varying degrees of erosion, 26% has tendency to pile up: Report

| Sridhar.Vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The famous beaches of Devbag, Karwar, Apsarakonda (Uttara Kannada district), Kirimanjeshwara, Maravanthe, Yermal (Udupi district), Mukka and Ullal (Dakshina Kannada district) are marked as 'affected areas' by coastal erosion as per the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Sciences. The NCCR report also stated that 24% of Karnataka's coastline is under varying degrees of erosion (low, moderate, or high); 26% is of accreting nature and the remaining 50% is in a stable state.

The Centre had carried out a national shoreline change assessment mapping for the Indian coast using 28 years of satellite data from 1990 to 2018 along nine coastal states and two Union Territories (UTs) to provide information for coastal management strategy. The report said that some stretches of India's shoreline were subject to varying degrees of erosion due to natural causes or anthropogenic activities.

Erosion-prone regions

The coastal erosion impacts coastal communities residing in the erosion-prone areas, including fishermen communities. In India, around 32% of the coastal lines are prone to erosion. The highest is in West Bengal (60%) followed by Puducherry (56%), Tamil Nadu and Kerala (41%), Andhra Pradesh (28%),

Odisha and Gujarat (26%) and the least in Goa (19%).

Shoreline changes

The data was presented in Lok Sabha recently by the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. "As per the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), on average, the sea level along the Indian coast is considered to be rising at about 1.7 mm/year. The Ministry of Earth Sciences monitors the shoreline changes along the Indian coast on an annual basis. Studies indicate various patterns, namely, advancement of the sea landwards (erosion), advancement of the land towards sea (accretion) and stable shoreline, respectively. Such shoreline changes have been observed for south Indian coastal states, which have impacted the local habitations," the data said.

To prevent sea erosion, the Centre has taken up the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP). The hazard line for the entire coast has been delineated. The hazard line is indicative of the shoreline changes, including the



sea level rise due to climate change and is a projection of impact due to sea level rise and shoreline changes over a long period of time (100 years). This line is required to be used by the agencies concerned in the Coastal States as a tool for disaster management for the coastal environment, including planning of adaptive and mitigation measures.

Survey of coastal line

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Engineering Research Station (KERS), under the Department of Water Resources, has launched an extensive survey to assess the coastal erosion across the state's 480-km coastline. The demand for permanent solutions has been rising among locals, but a detailed study on the extent and intensity of erosion in specific areas has not been conducted so far. This initiative aims to address this gap.

The KERS's Coastal Engineering Division plans to survey over 120 locations in these districts. The study will focus on erosion during the monsoon and post-monsoon seasons, with the goal of completing it before the 2025 monsoon. An official said, "The survey is designed to provide insights for sustainable solutions to coastal erosion. It will identify areas at high risk and determine the best mitigation measures based on wave intensity, soil analysis, and coastal infrastructure. Key aspects include studying wave patterns during the monsoon, the extent of seawater intrusion, and assessing risks to coastal residents."

Moreover, data will also be gathered on shoreline designs, vegetation types, and the impact on coastal infrastructure, including roads, buildings, and historical landmarks. "A private firm has been engaged to support the project, ensuring timely execution. The findings will be submitted to the Department of Water Resources and other relevant authorities to guide future action."

AI can help detect autism in toddlers

| Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A project carried out by IIIT-Bangalore is aiming to detect ASD in children aged 18 to 42 months through behavioural analysis using computer vision and deep learning techniques. Based on the results, targeted interventions will be designed and implemented to address the identified deficits, thereby promoting the development of the child's skills in the areas of greatest need.

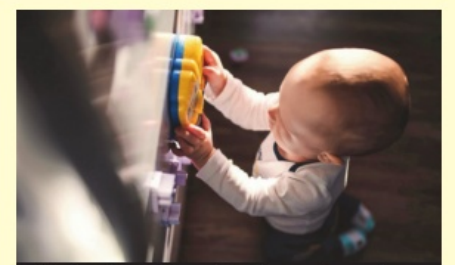
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental condition characterised by differences in social communication, repetitive behaviours, and sensory sensitivities. According to estimates from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately one in 36 children in the United States has been diagnosed with ASD as of 2024.

"Early detection of autism allows for timely intervention, which can enhance child development and skill-building. With the advent of artificial intelligence (AI), we can diagnose autism with less delay, offer scalability, reduce biases among clinicians, and mitigate the limited reach of clinicians. Our research partner, the Centre for Advanced Research and Excellence in Autism and Developmental Disorders, St John's Hospital, Bengaluru, has developed a play behaviour protocol specifically developed for the Indian context," said Professor Dinesh Babu Jayagopi, HoD, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence.

He further stated that the protocol includes both structured and unstructured activities, and the video recordings are obtained from triadic interactions between the parent, child, and examiner. "...The recorded videos are analysed to identify and recognise 26 behaviours of interest, encompassing all three behavioural domains: facial expression-based, social communication-based, and play-based, using deep learning techniques."

Structured activities are those in which the children are provided with explicit instructions on what tasks to perform. Unstructured activities involve scenarios where the child is not given specific directions and is free to engage in play or exploration independently, he explained. "On a dataset collected in this setting, using our computer vision-based prediction methods, we identify several autistic behaviours of interest towards automatic diagnosis."

Jayagopi added, "The system has achieved ASD prediction accuracy averaging 82 per cent. These results need to be validated on a larger dataset to establish their generalisability and applicability in clinical evaluation."



'Early detection of autism allows for timely intervention; this can enhance child development & skill-building'

“In India, around 32% of the coastal lines are prone to erosion. Coastal erosion impacts coastal communities residing in erosion-prone areas, including fishermen communities

- Data

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Under cover
A man rides his vehicle during a sudden spell of shower in Bengaluru on Saturday

Bengaluru has more pressing needs, say citizens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

location for the project. The notice invited objections and suggestions from the public regarding the location. Citizens were supposed to send their proposals on or before November 7.

"The government should get the signal that it is a 'no' for the citizens. Hundreds have sent their objections in response to a notice seeking suggestions on location. Thousands would have responded if a direct opinion was sought. This is a litmus test. The public has a negative connotation of this project and they are viewing it as a bad choice," said Sandeep Anirudhan of Namma Whitefield.

More pressing needs

Experts say the 250-metre sky deck would be akin to wasting people's hard-earned money on unnecessary activity.

They opine the money will be better spent on activities such as lake rejuvenation and establishing

a continuous network of stormwater drains.

"Within a year of the rejuvenation of Sarakki Lake in south Bengaluru, the groundwater table in the area has come up by 320 feet. During the last summer, when the entire city was facing a water crisis, Sarakki had enough water. The temperature in that region was 2 degrees Celsius lower.

This is the model to be replicated in the country, in the state, and the city by halting all irrelevant projects including the Skydeck," said Professor TV Ramachandra, Center for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Experts say any project that requires a considerable expanse of public money should undergo a social audit apart from an environmental impact assessment. Part of the social audit is to estimate if the citizens or society requires the proposed project. So many objections in such a short period only goes to show that Bengalureans do not

want the sky deck.

"While on one hand, the government is talking about financial constraints, on the other hand, it is planning a vanity project," added Anirudhan.

City-based civic activists say the government's priority should be to address the pressing infrastructure issues like roads, potholes, footpaths, metro, and suburban rail that can reduce congestion, and pollution, and serve the city's people, including its most vulnerable masses who are in dire need of these essential infrastructure and services.

"We are calling on the BBMP to conduct a transparent public consultation involving both citizens and local farmers before moving forward with the sky deck project.

More than 300 objections have already been raised, and it's clear the rushed public notice was issued over the Deepavali holiday which has failed to consider the broader impacts," said Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation.

Domestic work done dirt cheap

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"For example, if a wage card sets Rs 700 per month for the purpose of sweeping and mopping, other tasks such as dusting that are required to be performed simultaneously, are not taken into consideration," she said.

Minimum wages

According to the minimum wage notification for domestic workers by the labour department, washing, cleaning, cutting of vegetables/non-veg items, cleaning pulses, grinding, cooking and cleaning of kitchen etc amounts to Rs 19,517.55 per month in areas under the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and agglomeration areas. Minimum wage for washing clothes/ washing utensils/ housekeeping and cleaning of house, and looking after children is Rs 17,614.22.

Washing clothes/ housekeeping and cleaning and other related works requires a minimum wage of Rs 17,268.16 to be paid. These are the set wages for eight hours of work and the wages to be paid are calculated according to the number of hours worked. For those who are live-in domestic workers, after eight hours, overtime must be paid at double the rate.

"We do not stress on the notification set by the government as it has been prepared unscientifically and is not updated according to inflation. There is no differentiation made between skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled work. For example, childcare has been clubbed with other tasks despite it involving immense responsibility, demanding a certain type of personality and skill set. This (minimum wage set up by the government) must still be considered," Geeta said.

Coercive associations

She noted that the collective mandate by RWAs forces individual employers who are willing to compensate their workers fairly to refrain from doing so. "These notifications often have a threatening tone which cautions employers that their worker will be barred from entering the complex premises if and when found to be taking more than the prescribed charges. This is ridiculous as we are functioning in a free market.

When the individuals come together as a society, we notice a lot of irresponsibility," she explained. "The minimum wage notification as per the labour standards only sets a benchmark. It is a known fact that the wages are finalised only after a negotiation between the parties, in accordance with the tasks to be carried out, the time consumed in completing them, the number of rooms within the house and people that are residing in a particular home," she added.

Geeta urged the Labour Department to conduct sensitisation programs with RWAs, making them aware of the various mandates to be followed with respect to domestic workers.

"These amounts (set by RWAs) are far less than minimum wage. In fact, non-payment of minimum wage amounts to bonded labour prohibited under Article 23 of the Constitution, as repeatedly held by the Supreme Court. This is because any agreement by a worker to work for less than minimum wage is not a free agreement but coerced through economic circumstances of poverty and destitution. In this context, such a notification by an RWA debar-



ring workers who charge even minimum wages is nothing but criminal conspiracy," said Avani Chokshi, an advocate and member of All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU).

"We cannot also overlook the fact that domestic workers are most often from downtrodden sections of society. A study in Bengaluru on caste distribution of domestic workers found the majority of them belong to downtrodden sections of the society, comprising 75% Scheduled Caste, 15% Other Backward Castes, 8% Scheduled Tribe and 2% other castes. So, domestic workers face triple oppression of caste, class and gender," she added.

Seventh time lucky

A study by the Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS) released in 2022 found that domestic workers in Bengaluru and Chennai would have to work in six lowest-paying households to earn the state minimum wage.

The study had found that the wages for domestic workers ranged between Rs 2,000 and Rs 13,000 in Bengaluru. Since the minimum wage for domestic workers in Karnataka ranged from Rs 12,241 to Rs 14,971 in 2022, a worker would have to work in six of the lowest-paying households in Bengaluru to make the minimum wage. As the study by IIHS is based on the employers' responses, it did not say how many hours a domestic worker would have to work to earn the minimum wage.

A domestic worker in Attiguppe employed for washing utensils in a household of a family of four told Bangalore Mirror that she was paid Rs 900 per month, without any paid leaves.

"The work takes close to an hour every day," she added. According to the minimum wage notification, the wage to be paid per day for eight hours of work involving washing utensils amounts to Rs 677.47. Hence, the worker is to be paid Rs 84 each day amounting to Rs 2,520 per month without her having taken any leaves.

"It is hard to negotiate with the employers. They try to compensate with other means such as providing food which is often stale, instead of paying us a fair wage. The government forums to raise the issue are also not readily accessible," she said.

A notification put out by a popular apartment complex in the city, a copy of which is available with the Bangalore Mirror, set the price for tasks such as sweeping, mopping, dusting, cleaning of utensils and the bathroom at Rs 2,650 for a 2BHK, Rs 3,600 for a 3BHK and Rs 4,550.

jobs

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Lakshmi Kanigelapti W/o Mahesh Kanigelapati R/a No 03, Sobagu, KSRTC Layout, Near Ganesh Temple, Chikkala sandra, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru - 560061. I have changed my name to Lakshmi Sugatur Venkatachalapathi Shetty. Vide Affidavit dated on 14/11/2024 Sworn Before Notary S N Madhu Bangalore.

I, Harindranath Narayan, R/at #202, Landmark Apartments, #1, Moyenville road, Langford Town, Bengaluru-560025, have changed my minor daughter name from Shriyaditta Harindranath to Shriyaditta Harindranath, vide affidavit dt: 16.11.2024 sworn before notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

I, Ravi Chandan Thippenahalli Harisha S/o Harish Thippenahalli Ramamurthy R/o Andanappa Layout, Govt, Thippenahalli, Nagasandra, B'luru, 560073 have changed my name to Ravi Chandan Thippenahalli Harish.

WE, Bhoorender Panwar & Richa Panwar R/o H-1302, Purva Palm Beach, Kothanur - 77 have changed our Minor Son's Name from Kairav Panwar to Kiyan Panwar vide Affidavit b/f Notary YR Chandra shekhar on 24.04.2024

I, Shakeela Banu Rizwan W/O Rizwan Khan R/o No.1 Salts Manor Flat No 101,GF, 1st Main Rd Krinappa layout shampura new extension rt nagar post bangalore 560032 have changed my name as Shakeela Banu

I, Ashok Dattatraya Kulkarni S/O Dattatraya Gurunathrao Kulkarni R/o #164, 5th Main Road, 2nd Stage ,2nd Phase, Mahalakshimpuram, B'luru 560086 have changed my name to Ashok Dattatray Kulkarni

I Sankaran Jothiprakash R/o 45/3, 3-b Cross, 4th Main Road, Dca Complex Phs-4, Domlur 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560071 Have Changed My Name To Sankaran Nair Jyothi Prakash Nair

I, Divakara.S.R S/o Rangadhamalaih.S R/o No 602, Mahaveer Lakes, Opp. Ginger Lake View, Uttarahalli Road, Kengeri 560060 have changed my name to Divakar.S.R.

I, Sandeepa.H.A. R/o. No-107,pgc landmark, pillahalli, Nelamangala, Bengaluru rural 562123 have changed my name to Sandeep.H.A for all purposes.

I, Sandeep Kumar s/o Balaraj Muniswamy R/o No.278 G/F 9th Cross Lakshmi Road Shantinagar B'luru-560027 have changed my name to Sandeep Kumar B for all Purposes.

I, Leela Anandkumar w/o Anand Kumar R/o No 23, Shubh Enclave, 15th main, Harlur Rd, HSR Layout B'luru-560102 have changed my name to Leela Anand for all purposes

Climate crisis: Stories of loss, survival

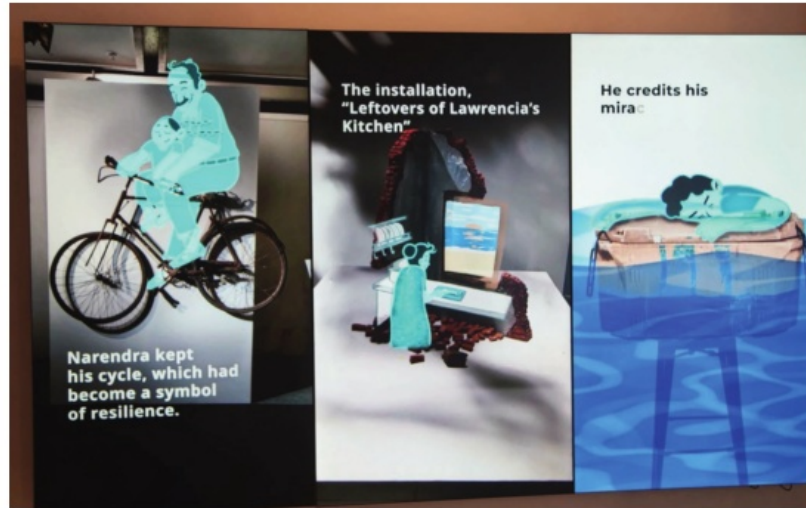
Exhibition in form of digital museum of everyday objects that tell real stories comes to Bengaluru

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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A unique exhibition in Bengaluru is exploring the intersectionalities between climate, gender, class and caste through an immersive museum. As the world witnesses global leaders discussing climate concerns and targets at COP29, Greenpeace India and the Museum of Art and Photography (MAP) are hosting, Climate at the margins: Gender, class and caste vulnerabilities which is bringing forth real people and their stories of loss, survival and resilience in the face of the climate crisis.

The highlight of the exhibition is a digital museum of everyday objects that tells real stories of people who endured extreme weather events in different parts of India. Sabari Venu, popularly known as Meancurry on Instagram for his quirky humour and art, has designed the exhibition. "We combined various visual and storytelling techniques with the museum's technology to sensitively bring these stories to life. News about climate dis-



The Museum of Art and Photography (MAP) are hosting Climate at the margins: Gender, class and caste vulnerabilities on Sunday

News about climate disasters often reduces the damage to numbers. With this exhibition, we could share the human stories behind the numbers —Sabari Venu, expo designer

asters often reduces the damage to numbers and statistics. Through this exhibition, we had the opportunity to share the raw, human stories behind those numbers," says Sabari. After travelling to Chennai and Delhi, the Museum of Memories exhibition has arrived in Bengaluru, this time in the form of a digital museum.

"As the world looks to COP for progress on climate finance, the Museum of Memories highlights a vital truth: those most affected by climate disasters are often the least

responsible for them. As the fossil fuel industry continues to profit without any accountability, communities on the front lines are in increasingly urgent need of support to adapt," says Amruta SN, Climate Campaigner at Greenpeace India. Fossil fuels account for over 75 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions and nearly 90 percent of all carbon dioxide emissions. She further emphasises that it's time for a 'polluters pay principle', ie governments must secure finance for community resilience, ensuring that

those who've driven the climate crisis pay up for the loss and damage they've caused.

Bhumika Saraswati, journalist and filmmaker, who works at the intersection of climate, caste, and gender is holding a workshop at the event on Sunday that focuses on creative documentation of the impacts of extreme heat, and how heat intersects with gender, caste, and identity in our everyday life. It will also reflect on the gendered nature of certain crises and how they exacerbate existing inequalities. "Any conversation on climate is incomplete without addressing the intersections of gender and caste, especially in India and the whole of South Asia, where caste and patriarchy are central to our social and cli-

mate justice challenges. Women, particularly those from oppressed caste and class backgrounds, experience extreme weather events disproportionately. Climate discussions must centre our communities—those most affected—to ensure an equitable and inclusive approach to justice. It is high time," she said.

The two-day event also includes episodes of Story Circles, an interactive event where community storytellers share personal experiences of loss, hope, and resilience in the face of the climate crisis. An immersive virtual reality video is also on display allowing viewers to experience the beauty and fragility of the Sundarbans through the story of Badal Das, a local fisherman.

'Visually powerful films needed to convey science through storytelling'

For filmmaker Sandesh Kador, a National Geographic explorer and the cinematographer for BBC's Emmy nominated 'Planet Earth II', conveying science through storytelling is very important.

"I believe in hitting people on the head with visually powerful films that convey science through storytelling," said Kador to PTI.

Kador's latest documentary, 'Nilgiris - A Shared Wilderness', co-produced by Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies and Felis Creations, will be screened in Bengaluru on November 21.

The film, which celebrates the story of India's first UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, was launched in Chennai on November 4, to coincide with the International Day for Biosphere Reserves, which is observed every year on November 3.

Kador said the idea for the film germinated in one of the forest treks that he undertook with philanthropist Rohini Nilekani.

"We were discussing how Nilgiris is unique in many ways. For instance, Nilgiris district also has the highest number of schools in India. We were talking about how there is not a

Sandesh Kador talks about his artistic process ahead of his latest documentary's screening in city

Karnataka are some of the examples of this genre of documentary.

Kador said the mainstream success of 'The Elephant Whisperers', although the film is not exactly a wildlife conserva-

tion film, did a lot in connecting the broader audience to films exploring the relationship of man and nature. "It's about time too because there is a lot of drama in nature," he added.

—PTI

single documentary showing the broader aspects of people's connection to this amazing landscape, when Rohini asked me why don't you make a film," said Kador.

A big part of 'Nilgiris--A shared Wilderness' was filmed in tea gardens and in villages. "That is the story of modern wilderness," he added.

He said he chose to make a blue-chip documentary, with 'extreme details, macro shots, aeriels...' "The idea is to draw people into the world of nature and then show the many treasures of the forest," he added.

Karnataka, especially is not new to blue-chip documentaries. 'Wild Karnataka', directed by Kalyan Varma and Amogha Varsha JS in 2019, featuring the music of Grammy-award winning composer Ricky Kej and the more recent 'The Natural World in Motion', produced by the Forest Department of

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Bluesky's the limit?

Disgruntled X users are once again flocking to Bluesky, a newer social media platform that grew out of the former Twitter

Disgruntled X users are again flocking to Bluesky, a newer social media platform that grew out of the former Twitter before billionaire Elon Musk took it over in 2022. While it remains small compared to established online spaces such as X, it has emerged as an alternative for those looking for a different mood, lighter and friendlier and less influenced by Musk.

Championed by former Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey, Bluesky was an invitation-only space until it opened to the public in February. That invite-only period gave the site time to build out moderation tools and other features. The platform resembles Musk's X, with a "discover" feed and a chronological feed for accounts that users follow. Users can send direct messages and pin posts, as well as find "starter packs" that provide a curated list of people and custom feeds to follow.

Bluesky said in mid-November that its total users surged to 15 million, up from roughly 13 million at the end of October, as some X users look for an alternative platform to post their thoughts and talk to others online. The post-election uptick in users isn't the first time Bluesky has benefited from people leaving X. The platform gained 2.6 million users in the week after X was banned in Brazil in August — 85% of them from Brazil, the company said. About 500,000 new users signed up in one day in October, when X signaled that blocked accounts would be able to see a user's public posts.

Across the platform, new users



— among them journalists, left-leaning politicians and celebrities — have posted memes and shared that they were looking forward to using a space free from advertisements and hate speech. Some said it reminded them of the early days of Twitter more than a decade ago.



Despite Bluesky's growth, X posted after the election that it had "dominated the global conversation on the U.S. election" and had set new records. Bluesky, though, has bigger ambitions than to supplant X.

Bluesky said in November that its total users surged to 15 million, up from roughly 13 million at the end of October, as some X users look for an alternative platform to post their thoughts and talk to others online

Beyond the platform itself, it is building a technical foundation — what it calls "a protocol for public conversation" — that could make social networks work across different platforms — also known as interoperability — like email, blogs or phone numbers.

Currently, you can't cross between social platforms to leave a comment on someone's account. Twitter users must stay on Twitter and TikTok users must stay on TikTok if they want to interact with accounts on those services. Big Tech companies have largely built moats around their online properties, which helps serve their advertising-focused business models.

Bluesky is trying to reimagine all of this and working toward interoperability. **AP**

I'm a fool essentially providing free funding to OpenAI: Elan Musk once told Altman

An amended lawsuit, filed by Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk in the US against Sam Altman-run OpenAI for abandoning its non-profit stance, has revealed some interesting email exchanges between them.

Musk was OpenAI's largest financial backer. In 2016, He contributed over \$15 million, and in 2017 he contributed nearly \$20 million.

"Additionally, through Musk Industries, he leased OpenAI, Inc.'s office space in the Pioneer Building in San Francisco, paid its monthly overhead expenses, and even though he stepped down from the Board and relinquished his status

as member on February 21, 2018, he nevertheless continued to make regular contributions to OpenAI, Inc. until September 14, 2020," read the lawsuit.

All told, the tech billionaire contributed more than \$44 million in cash alone to OpenAI, Inc. in its first five critical years.

"It is fair to say that without Musk's involvement, backing, and substantial supportive efforts, there would have been no OpenAI," the lawsuit further stated.

In September 2016, Altman and Microsoft arranged for it to sell compute to OpenAI at a steep discount so long as the non-profit agreed to publicly promote Microsoft's products.

Musk rejected the "donation" and marketing ploy, writing to Altman: "This actually made me feel nauseous. It sucks and is exactly what I would expect from them."

The deal eventually went through, but without marketing gimmicks and at a more fulsome, but still below-market, price

Musk wrote: "History unequivocally illustrates that a powerful technology is a double-edged sword. The recent example of Microsoft's AI chatbot shows how quickly it can turn incredibly negative. The wise course of action is to approach the advent of AI with caution and ensure that its power is widely distributed and not con-

trolled by any one company or person. That is why we created OpenAI."

In 2017-2018, Altman and Brockman moved to recast the non-profit as a money-making endeavour to bring in shareholders, sell equity, and raise capital, and pressed Musk to agree.

After some back and forth, Musk wrote to Altman and Brockman on September 20, 2017: "Either go do something on your own or continue with OpenAI as a non-profit. I will no longer fund OpenAI until you have made a firm commitment to stay or I'm just being a fool who is essentially providing free funding to a start-up. Discussions are over." **IANs**

BITS & BYTES

TECH CONCLAVE IN B'LURU



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will inaugurate the 27th Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) here on November 19, officials said on Saturday.

The three-day tech conclave is organised by the Department of Electronics, IT and BT of Karnataka government. Australia is the official country partner for the event. Deputy CM DK Shivakumar and international dignitaries will take part in the inaugural, where two MoUs with Switzerland and Finland and a Letter of Intent with the Sharjah Innovation Authority (UAE) to foster collaboration will be signed, officials said. **PTI**

ISRO BIT IN SPACEX



The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is all set to launch its communication satellite aboard the Elon Musk-owned SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket. The 4700-kilogram GSAT-N2 satellite aims to provide data or Internet services to remote areas. It will also enable the availability of the Internet in aeroplanes across the Indian region.

ISRO's launch vehicle Mark-3 can put 4,000 kg into a geostationary transfer orbit, however, as GSAT-N2 weighs 4,700 kg, the space agency is using SpaceX's launch vehicle. This marks ISRO's first commercial launch using SpaceX.

GSAT-N2 (GSAT-20) is a Ka-band high-throughput communication satellite of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). **IANs**

SCAM VICTIMS BLAMED



Over 75% of respondents feel that candidates are partly responsible for falling prey to scams due to their failure to verify company's credentials before making payments or sharing sensitive personal information, a report said on Saturday.

A substantial 75% indicated that many job seekers fail to exercise the necessary caution when engaging with potential frauds posing as employers or recruiters, the report by workforce staffing and HR services provider Genius Consultants said.

The report by Genius Consultants is based on a survey of 1,427 employees across sectors such as FMCG, Technology, Manufacturing, Telecom, etc. **PTI**



JHANGORE KI KHEER (BARNYARD MILLET PUDDING)

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup jhangora (barnyard millet)
- 4 cups milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon cardamom powder
- 2 tablespoons chopped nuts (almonds, cashews)
- 1 tablespoon raisins
- A pinch of saffron soaked in warm milk

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Roast Jhangora:** Lightly roast the jhangora in a pan without oil until aromatic.
- 2. Cook with Milk:** Add the roasted jhangora to boiling milk. Cook on low heat, stirring frequently, until the millet is soft and the mixture thickens.
- 3. Sweeten and Flavour:** Add sugar, cardamom powder, saffron, nuts, and raisins. Cook for another 5 minutes.
- 4. Serve:** Serve warm or chilled, garnished with extra nuts.

BAL MITHAI



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup khoya (mawa)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup sugar balls (tiny sugar-coated fennel seeds or silver balls)

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Prepare Khoya Base:** Heat khoya in a pan until it turns brown and starts releasing ghee.
- 2. Add Sugar:** Add sugar and cocoa powder, stirring continuously until the mixture thickens and leaves the sides of the pan.
- 3. Shape and Cool:** Spread the mixture on a greased plate, let it cool slightly, and cut it into rectangular pieces.
- 4. Coat with Sugar Balls:** Roll the pieces in sugar balls to coat them completely.
- 5. Serve:** Bal Mithai is best served at room temperature, with its fudgy texture and crunchy coating.

Recipes by Rahul Istwal | Executive Chef |
 Angsana Oasis Spa & Resort

Sweet cravings

Traditional dessert options that you can feast on with zero guilt

MAKHANA AND COCONUT BARFI



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup makhana (puffed lotus seeds)
- 1 cup grated fresh coconut
- 1/2 cup jaggery
- 2 tbsp ghee (clarified butter)
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 tsp cardamom powder
- Chopped nuts (almonds, cashews, pistachios) for garnish
- Edible silver leaf (optional, for decoration)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Roast the Makhana:

- Heat 1 tbsp of ghee in a pan.
- Add the makhana and roast them on low heat until they turn crisp.
- Once roasted, grind the makhana into a coarse powder using a blender or food processor.

Prepare the Coconut Mixture:

- In a separate pan, heat the remaining ghee.
- Add the grated coconut and sauté for about 2-3 minutes until it becomes slightly golden.

Make the Jaggery Syrup:

- In another pan, add jaggery and water. Cook on medium heat until the jaggery melts and forms a thick syrup.

Combine Ingredients:

- Add the roasted and ground makhana, coconut mixture, and cardamom powder into the jaggery syrup. Stir everything together well until the mixture thickens.
- Transfer the mixture to a greased tray or plate.
- Spread it evenly and press it down to smoothen the surface. Garnish with chopped nuts and edible silver leaf.
- Allow the barfi to set for about 1-2 hours at room temperature.
- Once set, cut it into squares or diamond shapes and serve.

Recipe by Chef Rajinder Sareen, Executive Chef, Sheraton Grand Pune Bund Garden Hotel

MIND, BODY & HEART



All you need to know about...

Food poisoning

Trickster bacteria

A team of US researchers has found that Salmonella bacteria -- a major reason behind food poisoning -- gets inside the gut by tricking the protective bacteria.

Salmonella

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 600 million people get sick from unsafe food every year, while 420,000 people annually die from unsafe food.

Salmonella is the most common cause of food poisoning. It can be found in raw eggs, undercooked poultry, beef, pork, vegetables, and processed foods.

Trillions of bacteria reside in the gut and many produce short-chain fatty acids (SCFAs) that help fight harmful pathogens. Salmonella grows in the gut by changing the nutrient balance in the digestive system. It then survives by altering the gut nutrient environment, revealed the study, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

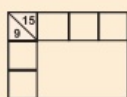
Pathogen's action

While it was previously known that Salmonella invades the small intestine, Andreas Baumber, Professor at the University of California-Davis, US, said that they found that the pathogen can enter the colon and spread. Salmonella first enters the small intestine and causes inflammation in the gut lining. This disrupts the normal absorption of amino acids from food, creating an imbalance, enabling the pathogen to survive and multiply in the large intestine (colon), explained Baumber. Inflammation in the small intestine helps salmonella derive nutrients that fuel its replication in the colon, he added. "Our findings show that Salmonella has a clever way of changing the gut's nutrient environment to its advantage," Baumber said.

-IANS

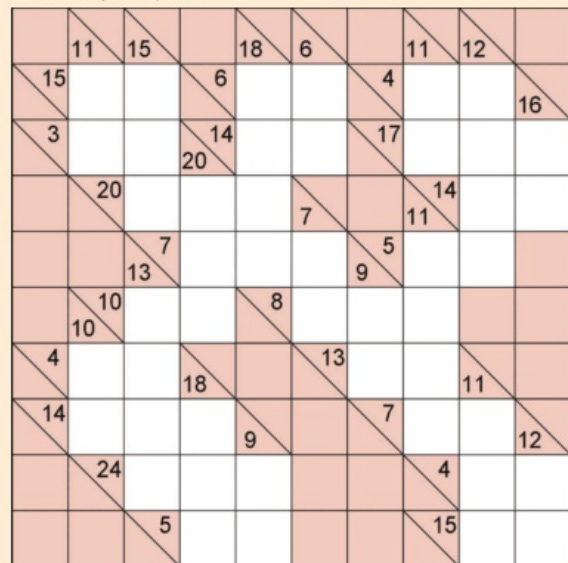
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

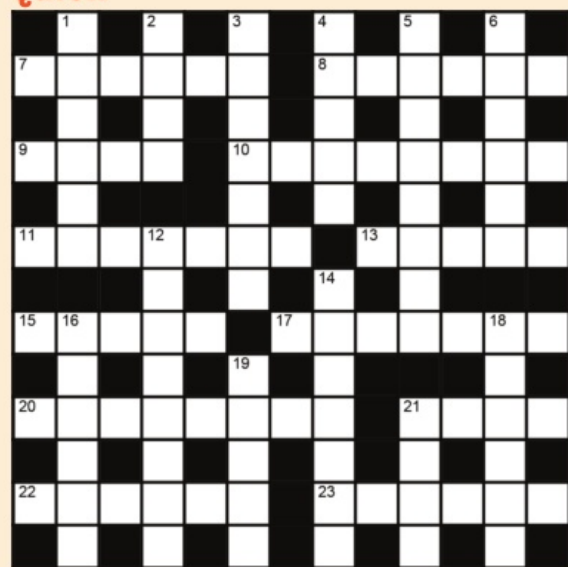


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 7 Follow-up of a story or a novel (6)
- 8 Strand (6)
- 9 Teases; makes fun of (4)
- 10 Hundred and eight inches? (4,4)
- 11 State language of Maharashtra (7)
- 13 Former US president (5)
- 15 Otherwise? (2,3)
- 17 Schedule listings (7)
- 20 Witticism (3-5)
- 21 Skin hole (4)
- 22 Lathe operator (6)
- 23 Serviette (6)

DOWN

- 1 Italy's football league (5,1)
- 2 Mink, ermine, stoat, et al.? (4)
- 3 Carte ____ : full discretionary power given to a person? (7)
- 4 In midst of (5)
- 5 Scrawl on walls (8)
- 6 Awaken; reach (4,2)
- 12 ____ his money are soon parted? (1,4,3)
- 14 Theatre at Rajaji Nagar (7)
- 16 Organism produced by spores (6)
- 18 Don't allow? (6)
- 19 Habituate or get used to (5)
- 21 Church leader (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: H EQUALS U
UVLGO XMLGSM, BZ TAH
UVLGO GD GMM; XGSFL LFLST
IASJ QZASL TAH MLD BD
ZGMM.



Linemaro

Are you a wizard?
Because you've got me
under your spell



Mindchow

A class system is
something you use to
discriminate against
someone who looks like
you



Joke of the day

Groucho Marx: Room
service?
Send up a larger room

Loop

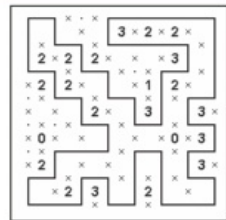
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

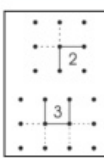
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

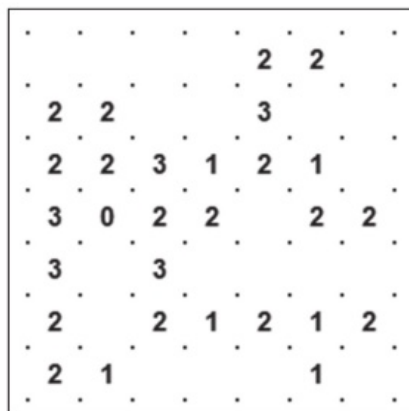
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



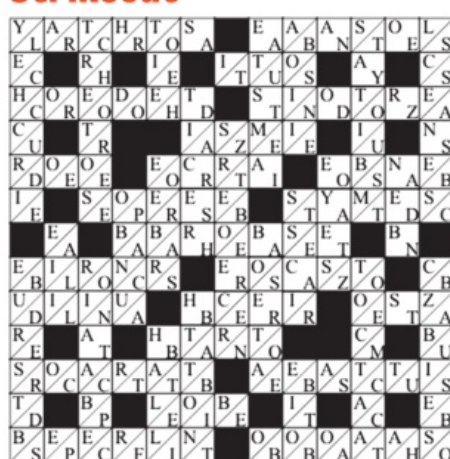
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



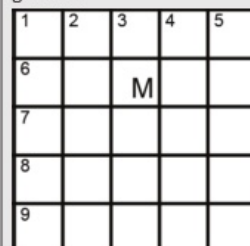
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

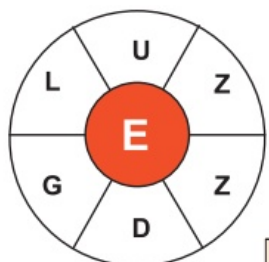
- 1 Caaba; 6 A slum;
- 7 Strip; 8 Auger;
- 9 Roost

DOWN

- 1 Tra-la; 2 Or rub;
- 3 Mi Goa; 4 Act up;
- 5 SS Sea

Mensapuzzle

Which letter completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

2 3 5 9 = 13

Medium

4 6 7 8 = 17

Hard

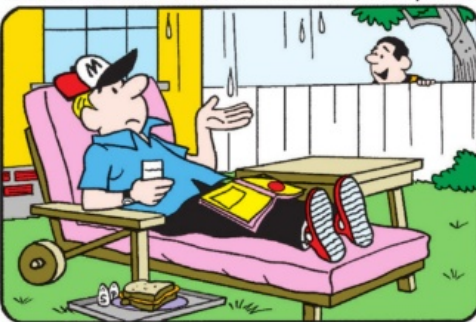
2 4 9 2 = 18

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Wheel is larger. 2. Table leg is moved. 3. Cap is larger. 4. Cushion is longer. 5. Neighbour is moved. 6. House is wider.

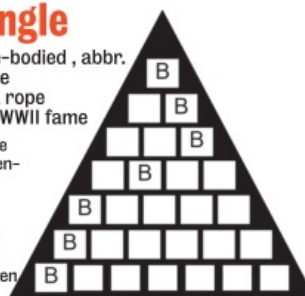
Riddler

At a train station in Sydney, Australia, an intelligent rich man was waiting his upper class rail transport. He was sorting through his wallet and pulled out credit cards, receipts, and \$200 in cash. An egotistical scam artist (and a talented one at that) approached the man and said to him, "I'll bet you, on all the money in your wallet, that I can get a packet of chips out of that snack machine without inserting any money!" The rich man, who was intrigued by this 'talent', readily agreed. The scam artist walked over to the snack dispenser, stuck his hand up through the compartments, and a chip packet fell out. The rich man was amazed, but being a faithful businessman, stuck to his word, yet the scam artist walked off without a penny.

Alpha triangle

- 1 Second letter 2 Able-bodied, abbr.
- 3 Chemist's workplace
- 4 Qualified 5 Secure a rope
- 6 Just 7 Gen Omar of WWII fame

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given



COMICS

The BETTER HALF

by GLASBERGEN

Featuring HARRIET STANLEY PARKER

"I'll sit here all day until I find something good. My father taught me to never give up until I reach my goals!"



"Sure I keep changing my opinions. It's harder for you to hit a moving target!"



"People in Hollywood spend billions to entertain us...and you're going to insult them by going out for a walk!?"



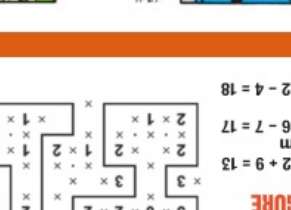
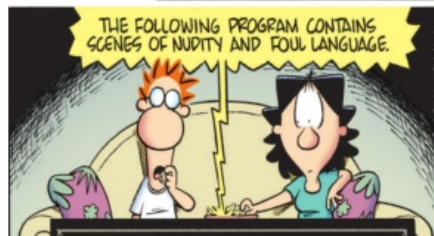
"Our money will be cheerfully refunded as soon as they can find someone in their office who's cheerful."



"Stanley's getting better at showing his emotions. Last night he burped 'I love you' in Morse Code."

BABY BLUES

BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today you may feel dull; it is advised to keep your mind cool, it's a golden rule for you to think twice before any act. You may travel to recover your money, otherwise you may lose it. You are also advised to avoid going for adventure tours. Students are advised to go for in depth study to get success.



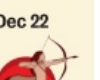
Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today you may be impatient, which may reflect into your way of working. There may be some silly mistakes, which may stop you from completing your task. Investments in fixed assets are advised to postpone for some days. But with the help of an elder's blessings, you may overcome the messy situation. In the evening, you may be focused towards your work.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short temper. You may spend your hard earned money buying worthless stuff; it may affect your savings. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics, otherwise there might be some break up.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today you may plan to renovate your house. You may buy some artifacts or creative stuff, which will improve your social status. You may also invest in properties and other assets. You are likely to enjoy your romantic moments with your spouse, which will increase your emotional relationship with them. Singles may find a soul mate. Love birds may make some important decisions in terms of marriage.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today you are blessed by the moon; your destiny is likely to be with you. Today you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for short work related travel. Some good news may come from your sibling. You may plan to renovate your house or office where your creativity will be tested.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today you may meet some influential person, who may help you in the progress of your work. Your network will be strong with the help of that person. You may prepare yourself to implement new ideas into your work or business. You will plan to invest more capital into your business. This may give you financial gains in the near future. In terms of domestic life, you will be busy with family get together and social events.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today you may feel happy. Chronic health issues related to family members cannot be cured. Money that was stuck may be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in the business. People who are in a job may get some incentives which will improve your financial health. Job seekers may get a job with the help of any relative or friend's reference. Students may take some help from their friends in terms of academics.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today, you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Love birds are likely to get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today your mother's health may be good. You may enjoy your work, you may get rewards after your hard work. Your social respect may be increased now. Overworking your mind may make you tired; due to workload, you may not be able to reach some family event.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today is important for domestic life. You may be busy with kids. You may hear some good news in terms of kids' education. You may buy some creative stuff for home or office to maintain your social status. You are advised to use wisdom while buying any household stuff or jewellery.



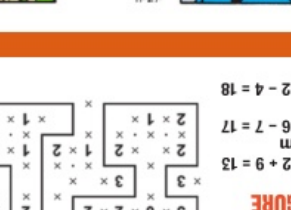
Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today messy situations are now under control. You may feel peace in the mind. You may be able to make a proper balance in expenditure and earnings, which may increase in savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking, it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

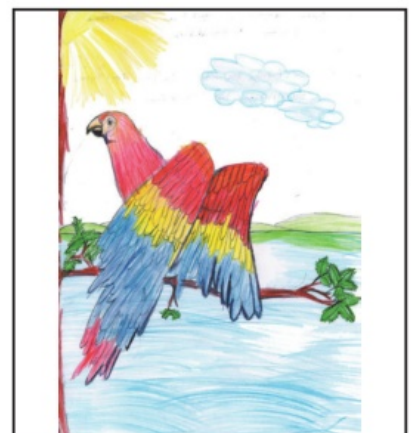
Today you may be satisfied at work. You may plan for a short work related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.



KIDZONE



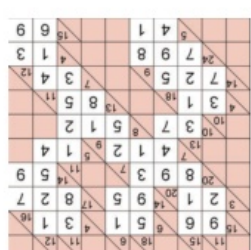
Karan
Dipesh,
Bangalore



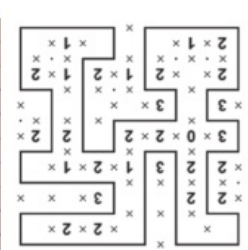
Aratrika
Majumder,
Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

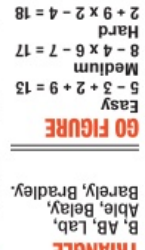
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



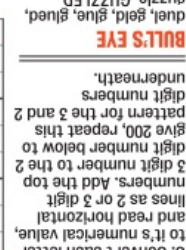
ALPHA TRIANGLE



LOOP



SUDOKU



MENSAS PUZZLE



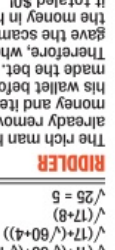
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



QUOTE UNQUOTE



RIDDLE



Cool camper

Sara Ali Khan shared some pictures of herself "camping under Purnima". Sara took to Instagram to share pictures from her camping site wearing a robe paired with a scarf

Feud of the stars

Nayanthara writes open letter beseeching Dhanush to stop being 'vile'

Actor Nayanthara on Saturday stunned everyone with her open letter dedicated to Dhanush, calling out the latter for not letting her use film footage from 'Naanum Rowdy Dhaan' for her Netflix wedding documentary.

In the letter, she also accused Dhanush of harbouring a personal grudge against her and her husband, filmmaker Vignesh Shivan. She mentioned that it was a 'low' move to demand Rs 10 crore from them to use a three-second snippet of songs from Naanum Rowdy Dhaan.

A part of the letter read, "A well-established actor like you, with the support and blessings of your father and your brother, an ace director, needs to read and understand this. Cinema as we all know is a fight for survival for people like me: a self made woman with no links in the industry and someone who had to struggle my way to the position I hold today. I'd owe this to my work ethic that is no secret to all who know me but more importantly, to the goodwill of the audience and my film fraternity." Nayanthara further questioned

Dhanush's vengeance against her and mentioned that she would give a befitting reply to his legal notice.

Describing Dhanush as a "vile" person, she wrote, "It's almost been 10 years since the release of the film, and it is a long time for someone to continue to be this vile while wearing a mask in front of the world. I have not forgotten all the horrible things that you said about the film that was one of your biggest hits as a producer..."

Nayanthara concluded with a plea for reconciliation. She requested Dhanush to "spread love". Dhanush has not reacted to the letter yet.

-ANI



Daughter's biggest critic

Bhavana Pandey, who was recently seen in Fabulous Lives vs Bollywood Wives, opened up about her daughter Ananya Pandey's Bollywood debut in Karan Johar's Student of the Year 2 and offering a critique opinion about her performance in the film.

She also talked about Ananya's acting journey and praised her growth in her recent projects like Kho Gaye Hum Kahan and Call Me Bae.

When asked about a film where Ananya lived up to expectations, Bhavana told Bollywood Bubble, "I think she did everything she could from her side. She gave her best effort. Of course, there are so many factors that matter in a film. Maybe in Student of the Year

2... she was too raw. So I wouldn't say she didn't try her best, but perhaps she wasn't fully aware of what to do."

Shifting to Ananya's more recent work, Bhavana didn't hold back her admiration. She shared, "I think she was amazing in the films Kho Gaye Hum Kahan and Call Me Bae. I absolutely loved her."

Highlighting her daughter's comedic timing, Bhavana added, "I think



Small joys of Manushi

Actress Manushi Chhillar, who was last seen in 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', has shared her checklist for the week.

On Saturday, the actress took to her Instagram, and shared several pictures of herself going about her routine, and enjoying life.

In the pictures, she can be seen inside a gym doing pilates, getting decked-up during her make-up session, enjoying a few drinks, and posing next to a punching bag.

She wrote in the caption, "My week checklist, work and travel, exercise, glam, catching up with friends, finishing my painting, revisiting childhood memories in Delhi".

Earlier, the actress credited her father and doctor Mitra Basu Chhillar for his dedication that inspired her to dream of being a "clinician" when she was younger.

She re-shared a post by her father, who was in a conversation with actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu for her podcast. Sharing a glimpse of the chat, Manushi wrote a note for her dad, which read, "@dr_mitra_basu_chhillar, he's always been more than just a doctor to me. Watching my dad pour his heart into helping others live healthier lives, day in and day out, shows me what passion truly looks like".

"It's his dedication that inspired me to dream of being a clinician when I was younger, and even now, his relentless commitment reminds me that age is no limit when you're following your purpose", she added. Meanwhile, on the work front, the actress will next be seen in the action thriller 'Tehran' opposite John Abraham. Directed by Arun Gopalan, the film is claimed to be based on true events.

-IANS



Poorna Jagannathan bags HBO's 'Lanterns'

Indian-origin actor Poorna Jagannathan is all set to join the cast of HBO's 'Lanterns'. As per The Hollywood Reporter, Poorna will have a recurring part in the show from DC Studios and Warner Bros. TV.

Her character, Zoe, is "described as an effortlessly confident and poised woman in any setting,

and as composed and cunning as the influential men around her."

Lanterns is based on DC's long-running Green Lantern comics and stars Kyle Chandler and Aaron Pierre as, respectively, Hal Jordan and John Stewart, two of the best-known characters in the comics' long history. HBO picked up Lanterns to series in June after years of start-and-stop development.

Chris Mundy (Ozark) is the

showrunner for Lanterns and is co-writing the eight-episode season with Damon Lindelof (Lost, Watchmen) and Eisner Award-winning comics writer Tom King. They executive produce along with James Hawes, who is directing the first two episodes.

Poorna is best known for featuring in Netflix's Never Have I Ever. In Bollywood, she was seen in projects such as Delhi Belly and Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani.

-ANI



she was very funny. I don't want to sound like an obsessed fan, but I keep rewatching that series. Whenever I have nothing else to watch, I put it on because it's just so funny. I really enjoyed her character in Call Me Bae."

On the work front, Ananya was recently seen in CTRL, where she played Nella Awasthi, an influencer who, after going through a breakup, turns to Artificial Intelligence (AI) to eliminate her ex-boyfriend Joe from her life. She will next be seen sharing the screen with Akshay Kumar in Karan Johar's upcoming untitled film, inspired by the life of C Sankaran Nair. This project, directed by Karan Singh Tyagi, will mark Ananya's first collaboration with both Akshay and R Madhavan. The film is slated to hit theatres on March 14, 2025.

-ETimes